

Appl. No. : 10/759,953
Filed : January 16, 2004

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 and 14-19 are currently pending. Claim 1 has been amended to recite that a wall of the remote deposition chamber is made of aluminum and that the wall is exposed to the plasma discharge. The amendment provides a separate term to avoid confusion with the separately recited "internal surface" of the piping. Support for the amendment can be found throughout the application and claims as originally filed, for example, Claim 1 and paragraphs 0019, 0041, and 0070. New Claim 45 is hereby added. Support for Claim 45 can be found throughout the specification and claims as originally filed, for example, Claims 1 and 22. New Claim 45 depends from novel and nonobvious Claim 1 and is therefore novel and nonobvious. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

Drawings:

Applicants submit herewith an Information Disclosure Statement identifying a Remote Plasma System having aluminum alloy walls and capable of operation in the recited frequency range, as per the Examiner's previous request. This is not intended to be limiting and is only intended to demonstrate one possible embodiment of what one of skill in the art would understand regarding remote plasma systems. It is noted that while the document itself is dated as of 2003, the document states that an ASTRON gas generator was introduced in 1997. As identified in the present application, an arrangement as depicted by the reference could have the additional advantage of reducing "damage to the electrodes by ion bombardment at the time of cleaning..." (paragraph 0019 of the specification as filed).

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments, Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance and respectfully request the same. If, however, the Examiner feels some issue remains that can be addressed by Examiner Amendment, the Examiner is cordially invited to call the undersigned for authorization.


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Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 4/6/05

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